



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of all Sizes

Release Date: September 7, 2005

Contact: Frank A. Adinolfi or Matt Young

Release Number: 05-298, FL 10167/10168

Phone: 404-347-3771

SBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE CENTER TO CLOSE

ORLANDO, Fla. - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced today that it will close its temporary disaster assistance center in Volusia County Thursday, September 8 at close of business.

Individuals and businesses that were affected by the severe storms and flooding that occurred July 29 through August 14 have one day left to get personal help with their SBA disaster loan applications. "We keep our centers open as long as there appears to be a need for SBA assistance. We have seen very few people at this location over the past few days. That tells us we have probably met the needs of those in the area that were interested in getting help," according to Acting Disaster Area Director Frank Skaggs.

"We are urging anyone who sustained losses because of the severe storms and flooding to apply with SBA for assistance and return the completed loan application as soon as possible. "I hope you will come into the center and personally meet with a SBA Loan Officer. Our staff will remain at this location until Thursday, September 8 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to answer any questions about the disaster loan program, give you an application, and provide any extra help you may need or want in completing your application," Skaggs said.

Victims that sustained physical damage due to the severe weather in the declared Volusia County and the contiguous counties of Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Putnam and Seminole are eligible to apply for these SBA disaster loans.

"I also want to express my thanks to the staff at the Bank of America in Volusia County for providing the space for our loan assistance center. The courtesies extended to our staff were greatly appreciated," Skaggs added.

After the center closes, applications and program information will still be available by calling the SBA Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955. The Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) and speech impaired number is 1-800-877-8339. Completed applications should be returned to: U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance, 14925 Kingsport Highway, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline for returning applications for physical damage is October 24; the deadline to return economic injury applications is May 25, 2006.

For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster

###

SBA Disaster Assistance Office - Area 2—One Baltimore Place, Suite 300—Atlanta, GA 30308